Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino Date: 02-06-05 Release No. 05-023

News Release

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On February 6, 2005, San Antonio Police Officer Michael Garza, a 3 year veteran, witnessed a drug transaction near the intersection of Pinckney and N. New Braunfels. Officer Garza activated his emergency lights in an attempt to stop the lone suspect, but the suspect refused to stop and continued towards IH 35. As the suspect was fleeing, Officer Garza reported that he could see the suspect throwing narcotics out of the car window. Once on IH35, the suspect still refused to stop and continued onto southbound Hwy 16. The suspect then fled into the Palo Alto Terrace Subdivision and made several loops through the neighborhood before stopping at the Celeste and Twining St. intersection. Officer M. Garza and Officer Jason Mendez, a 3-year veteran, exited their patrol car, drew their service weapons, and ordered the suspect to exit his car. Instead, the suspect continued to move his car forward and was going directly towards Officer Garza and Mendez. Officer Garza and Mendez reported they then feared for their lives and fired multiple rounds towards the suspect, striking him several times. Once shot, the suspect was taken out of his car and secured. Emergency medical attention was called, but the suspect died at the scene

The suspect is identified as Doroteo Torres, 12-07-82.

The San Antonio Police Department's Shooting Team is handling the investigation and will submit their findings to Police Chief Albert A. Ortiz and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. As per policy, Officer Garza and Mendez will be placed on administrative duty while the investigation continues

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE